

(b) nucleic acid molecules that differ from the nucleic acid molecules of (a) in codon sequence due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, and

(c) complete complements of (a) and (b), wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule excludes nucleic acid molecules having the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:8.

6.(amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of any of claims 1 or 2, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule comprises an allelic variant of a LAGE-1 nucleic acid molecule.

7.(amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a unique fragment of nucleotides 1-993 of SEQ ID NO:4 between 15 and 992 nucleotides in length, and

(b) complements of "(a)", wherein the unique fragment excludes nucleic acid molecules which consist only of fragments of SEQ ID NO:8, and wherein the unique fragment comprises at least 5 contiguous nucleotides of SEQ ID NO:4 that are not present in SEQ ID NO:8.

38.(amended) A method for diagnosing a disorder characterized by expression of a LAGE-1 nucleic acid molecule or an expression product thereof, comprising:

contacting a biological sample isolated from a subject with an agent that selectively binds the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, and

determining expression of the nucleic acid molecule in the sample, wherein the expression of the nucleic acid molecule is diagnostic for the disorder in the subject.

Please add the following new claims.

57. The method of claim 38, wherein the expression of the nucleic acid molecule in the sample is determined by determining the binding between the agent and the nucleic acid molecule.

58. The method of claim 57, wherein the binding between the agent and the nucleic acid molecule is determined by nucleic acid amplification.